REMARKS

The statement in the outstanding Office Action that claims 14 and 15 are allowed is appreciated.

The statement in the outstanding Office Action that claims 2, 6, and 9-11 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form is appreciated. Specifically, claim 2 has been rewritten as independent 1, claim 11 has been rewritten as independent claim 7, and claim 6 has been rewritten as independent claim 16. It is pointed out that claims 1 and 7 were additionally amended to remove the reference to the center of gravity that was introduced in the last amendment. It is pointed out that claims 2, 6, and 11 were indicated to contain allowable subject matter in the office Action mailed on January 6, 2005. Accordingly, removal of the center of gravity feature from claims 1 and 7 does not create a new issue.

The outstanding Office Action includes a rejection of claims 3 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In view of the above amendment to claims 3 and 12, this rejection has been rendered moot, and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 1, 4, 7, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,033,469 (*Frank*). Claims 5 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Frank and U.S. Patent No. 5,232,330 (*Rae et al*). In view of the above amendment, these rejections have been rendered moot, and withdrawal of these rejections is requested.

It is pointed out that the applicants reserve the right to pursue original claims 1 and 7 in a continuing application.

The specification is amended on pages 9-10 to provide the serial number of the identified patent application. Accordingly, no new matter is introduced by this amendment.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

Date: July 25, 2005

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dennis R. Daley

Reg. No. 34,994 DRD:jjb